

The following list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) A method of administering an active therapeutic agent to an airway surface of a subject in need thereof, comprising administering the active agent in an effective therapeutic amount in a vehicle, which vehicle comprises an osmotically active compound, the osmotically active compound included in an amount effective to increase the volume of liquid on the airway surface.

23. (Original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of antibiotics, antiviral agents, bronchodilators, ion-transport modulators, enzymes, expectorants, viral gene transfer vectors, anti-inflammatory agents, hormones, antihistamines, anti-neoplastic agents, and anti-*Pneumocystis pneumonia* agents.

24. (Original) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the active agent is a sodium channel blocker.

25-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 22, wherein the osmotically active compound is an ionic osmolyte.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 31, wherein the ionic osmolyte is a salt.

33-36 (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein the salt is selected from the group consisting of choline chloride, choline iodide, lithium chloride,

meglumine chloride, L-lysine chloride, D-lysine chloride, ammonium chloride, potassium sulfate, potassium nitrate, potassium gluconate, potassium iodide, ferric chloride, ferrous chloride, and potassium bromide.

38-43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 22, wherein the subject is afflicted with cystic fibrosis.

45-48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 22, wherein said administering step is an aerosol inhalation administering step.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Previously Presented) A method of administering a sodium channel blocker to an airway surface of a subject in need thereof, comprising administering the sodium channel blocker in an effective therapeutic amount in a vehicle, said vehicle comprising potassium sulfate as an ionic osmolyte, said potassium sulfate included in an amount effective to increase the volume of liquid on the airway surface.

52. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 51, wherein said subject is afflicted with cystic fibrosis.

53. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 51, wherein said administering step is an aerosol inhalation administering step.